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Inquiry Extended to March 31

House to Continue Probe Into JFK, King Slayings

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House voted yesterday to continue its inquiry into the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. temporarily while Justice Department lawyers said they could find no evidence of a conspiracy in King's death.

By a 237 to 164 vote, the House extended the life of its Assassinations Committee until March 31, when its work will be re-evaluated.

The House began what was to be a two-year investigation last September. But the inquiry ran into trouble because of its price tag of $6.5 million per year and criticism of the chief counsel, Richard A. Sprague.

After the vote last night, Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, D-Tex., was appointed chairman. House leaders said they were confident that he would protect individual rights and present a new budget in two months.